

Judicial Branch

Judicial Branch

Mission

The judicial power of the state is vested in the Supreme Court, District Courts, Justice Courts, and such other courts as may be provided by law. The Supreme Court consists of one chief justice and six associate justices elected by popular vote for an eight-year term. The Court Administrator, under direction from the Supreme Court, manages the administrative functions of the Judicial Branch.

Achieving Business Goals Through IT Initiatives

Business Goals	FY98-99 IT Projects
	Continued funding and support for the existing sites using the automated Montana court systems, and new funding for non-automated sites is integral to addressing growing case loads and persistently restrictive

	<p>budgets. Implementation of automated standards will minimize system incompatibilities, allow for statistical and financial record keeping, and enhance judicial case management analysis.</p> <p>Continue enlarging the current user base, both in networked and standalone units. By using telecommunications products and other appropriate technologies to provide technical support, technical personnel will be able to enhance reliability.</p> <p>Construct statewide court network links for Montana courts and nationwide information systems by using statewide resources such as the State Data Network and SummitNet.</p>
Business Goals	FY98-99 IT Projects
	<p>Develop and enhance the Montana Judicial Case Management System (MJCMS). Work in this area will continue due to needed statutory maintenance; enhanced portions, such as restitution management module; jury selection, licensing functions, forms generation and management, calendaring, and motion tracking.</p> <p>Provide a commitment to the entire court system, Supreme Court, District Court, and Courts of Limited Jurisdiction (justice of the peace and city), of high quality and more frequent training, support, upgraded equipment, and staff expertise. Consider imaging costs and benefits to the court system.</p> <p>To work with other entities to establish technology links to form an integrated justice system.</p>

FY00-01 Initiatives

- ▲ Secure permanent funding to continue to move the Montana Court System into the next century.
- ▲ Completion of any remaining court sites not yet automated, networked, or linked to the statewide and national systems.
- ▲ Provide continuing support for the automated court information system, and provide current and appropriate technology equipment to those courts.
- ▲ Continue enhancements of the Court Case Management Systems to take advantage of

current technology.

- ▲ Implement imaging for the Montana Court system.

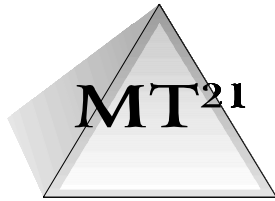
Judicial Branch

Accomplishments

- ▲ Continued to expand automation, and improved and supported existing sites. The Office of the Court Administrator (OAC) currently supports more than 550 users on 18 local-area networks and numerous standalone workstations at more than 81 sites. With recent system enhancements, these systems conform to the Montana Supreme Court Order mandating uniform standards for all court automation. The adopted standards ease product procurement, installation, and support of these systems. The OAC office has established closer working relationships with court clerks and judges to allow for MJCMS product migration, and has maintained excellent coordination with local elected officials in the funding and acquisition of these systems.
- ▲ Provided automation and training for courts. Except in jurisdictions where local technical expertise exists, Court Services technical personnel do the following: plan, propose, configure, ship, and install all hardware, software, and network components. Training is provided on-site and regionally (on a regular basis) in areas relating to virus protection, data management, backup/disaster recovery strategies, data security, productivity tools, and spreadsheets.

After the new site becomes familiar with the new environment, the judicial case management software developed by the Office of the Court Administrator is installed. The package consists of a court management information system that allows for fee tracking, case management, and reporting for all case types.

- ▲ Forged a partnership with Montana State University, Local Government Center, to automate the Courts of Limited Jurisdiction. The partnership allowed the OAC to automate limited courts using University expertise and University facilities for development, training, installation, and providing ongoing hotline help. With continued funding, this partnership is expected to grow and allow University expertise to assist the judicial system to move into the automated age.
- ▲ Planned and began implementation of an integrated automation system for all functions of the State Law Library. Modules include an online public access catalog, circulation, serials control, acquisitions, and cataloging. The system was chosen in cooperation with the State Library and the University System libraries; users at any site in the state will be able to search the holdings of any major library in Montana. Networking of various CD-ROM legal research products for remote use by government employees is being investigated. Members of the Law Library's staff were involved in intensive training for Internet use, and are now working with the State Bar of Montana to assist the officers of the Court with Internet access.



Department of Justice

Justice

Mission

The Department of Justice (headed by the Attorney General, the chief legal and law enforcement officer of the state) protects the citizens of the state through enforcement of civil and criminal laws and through programs designed to provide public safety. It provides legal services for the representation of state agencies, as well as appellate legal services and legal assistance to county prosecutors throughout the state. It conducts criminal identifications and investigations, operates the law enforcement telecommunications system, administers gambling control operations, supervises the Law Enforcement Academy, adopts and enforces fire safety codes, registers motor vehicles, issues driver's licenses, enforces motor vehicle laws, and provides technical and financial assistance to law enforcement agencies.

Achieving Business Goals Through IT Initiatives

Business Goals	FY98-99 IT Projects
To improve the department's ability to	Criminal History Records. During 1997, this

capture, store, and disseminate accurate, complete, and timely criminal history records to meet changing demands of the criminal justice community.	program will inventory the current manual and automated processes that result in the creation, maintenance, and use of criminal history record information in various local and Montana state agencies. A reporting of findings, conclusions, and recommendations for improvements will be done. This study will serve as a foundation document for a comprehensive criminal history record information systems plan and will be used by the department, during the 1998-9 biennium, as the system requirements definition for the future development, or purchase, of a modern, automated, Criminal History Records System.
Business Goals	FY98-99 IT Projects
To provide a cost-effective computing platform and a more flexible message switcher to meet the changing technical and operational needs of state and local law enforcement agencies.	Downsize the Armory Computer and Message Switch Replacement. The Department of Justice is planning to downsize the Armory IBM 4381 computer and replace the statewide law enforcement message switching system (known as the Criminal Justice Information Network, CJIN) during the 1998-9 biennium. The overall objective is to replace the Armory mainframe computer with a smaller, more cost-effective platform for running CJIN-related databases and to replace the current message switch system with a new system that also operates on a smaller platform accessing state-standard Oracle databases using PC user workstations via a TCP/IP protocol WAN.
To enable the Motor Vehicle Division to present, to the 1999 legislature, a comprehensive, cost-effective proposal for an integrated, automated, motor vehicle and driver licensing system that will more efficiently serve the needs of the motoring public.	<p>Feasibility Study of Motor Vehicle System. During the 1989-9 biennium the department proposes to conduct a feasibility study of computer applications that manage vehicle title and registration and driver's licensing functions. Both of these computer applications have grown from smaller, simpler systems into large, complex mainframe systems. Both programs provide statewide service and have interstate connections to other complex databases.</p> <p>Both applications need to be redesigned for efficiency and ease of support and to coordinate the databases. But more importantly, these systems need to be redesigned to take advantage of potential new technologies that will allow for more cost-effective ways of providing services and</p>

information to Montanans. To accomplish a modernization of these title, registration, and driver services, the Motor Vehicle Division, in cooperation with local governments, must undertake a feasibility study to assess the current and future needs for these services and to design modern, automated processes to take advantage of new technologies and better ways of providing these services.

Business Goals	FY98-99 IT Projects
To significantly improve processes related to the regulation, inspection, and tax reporting requirements for video gambling machines.	Automated accounting and reporting system (AARP). The department is seeking a computerized accounting and reporting system to obtain play and revenue statistics from more than 18,500 video gambling machines licensed in Montana. The system requires a central computer to communicate, via modem, to each licensed video gambling machine every 24 hours to retrieve statistics and to check the integrity of the gambling device. An automated accounting and reporting system will improve the regulation, inspection, and tax reporting requirements of video gambling machines.
To prepare the Department of Justice to meet future needs for mobile (in car) access to criminal justice information by state and local law enforcement.	<p>Justice Mobile Data Terminal Project. In FY97, the department will conduct a pilot project that will purchase, install, and maintain (for a one-year period) a five-car, prototype, mobile data network to deliver selected CJIN information to police vehicles. This pilot will assist the departments Mobile Data Oversight Committee in producing the technical and operational specifications required for mobile access CJIN. The mobile network will consist of the mobile computer and enabling software; the hardware and software necessary for the transmission and receipt of data over the Highway Patrol's existing RF network; and the interfacing hardware and software between the mobile base station(s) and CJIN.</p> <p>The technical and operational specifications developed in 1997 will have a significant impact on the departments ability to deliver CJIN information to law enforcement vehicles beginning in the 1998-9 biennium.</p>

FY00-01 Initiatives

- ▲ Analysis and Redesign of Motor Vehicle System. Depending on the findings and

recommendations of the feasibility study in Project 4 above, a detailed analysis and redesign of the Motor Vehicle System may be undertaken beginning in 2000 or 2001. This analysis and redesign would be followed by an effort to rewrite, or otherwise replace, the current computer applications for these systems.

- ▲ NCIC 2000. The FBI has been working on a project called the "National Crime Information Center 2000." This is a comprehensive improvement program for many of the criminal justice information systems to which Montana CJIN system has connections. Many of the improvements in the CJIN message switch, the downsizing of the Armory Computer, and other improvements to the criminal history records system are interrelated to the NCIC 2000 project. The "initial operating capacity" for NCIC 2000 is currently scheduled to occur during the second quarter of FY00.

Accomplishments

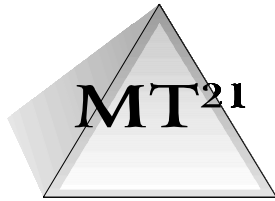
- ▲ Automation Planning. In December 1995, the Attorney General created a Department of Justice Automation Planning Committee (APC). The Attorney General established this committee to improve automation planning throughout the department and to create a comprehensive strategic planning process for automation projects. This planning effort was deemed necessary to establish automation priorities, to ensure coordination of department resources, and to improve the overall effectiveness of the various divisions in delivering public services.

The Automation Planning Committee met several times in 1996 to explore automation improvements, to coordinate automation activities, and to begin the process of developing a Department of Justice Information Technology Plan that contains short- and long-term goals, directions, and priorities. The initial plan will be in draft form by January 1997.

- ▲ Networking of Offices. The department continued the electronic linking of Helena and field offices as a top priority for the 1996-7 biennium. This was viewed as a multi-year project that would establish solid, cost-effective means of sharing information and improving the ability of employees to respond in a timely and efficient manner to work projects. The networking of PCs is also viewed as a very cost-effective means of sharing hardware and software and of improving support services for PC users.

As of July 1996, the department has local-area networks in every division, with 20 functional servers and more than 300 workstations. There remain a number of regional offices statewide that still have standalone PCs. The department is working through the Automation Planning Committee to develop a coordinated plan for networking these field offices in the future.

- ▲ Imaging pilot project. During the 1996-97 biennium, the department implemented a pilot project to explore the use of imaging technology in the Records and Driver Control Bureau of the Motor Vehicle Division. This pilot is using imaging technology to capture, store, and retrieve electronic images of paper records related to driver licensing and citation documents of Montana drivers. Montana has approximately 730,000 active driver licenses and more than 1.02 million license records. Each of these records contains multiple pieces of paper related to a single driver. This imaging pilot project, which will take several years to be fully implemented, uses the electronic copy of driver records to improve the efficiency of records management, storage, and retrieval and to improve public services related to these records.



Department of Labor

***Labor and
Industry***

and Industry

Mission

The Department of Labor and Industry (DLI) provides employment and training, protects conditions of workers, and protects employer/employee rights. Its functions include: providing service to people actively seeking employment and to employers seeking workers; supervising and enforcing labor laws and worker health and safety standards; working to eliminate discriminatory practices; and administering state collective bargaining, workers' compensation, and unemployment insurance laws.

Achieving Business Goals Through IT Initiatives

Business Goals	FY98-99 IT Projects
The system supports the payment of and accounting for Unemployment Insurance Benefits.	Reengineer and replace the Unemployment Insurance Benefit Accounting System.
The department purchasing process.	Continue with the on-line automated requisition purchasing system (ARPS) application using client/server technology and, as SummitNet grows, testing and implementation of the application to all DLI employees.
The department SBAS process.	Develop an on-line SBAS application using client/server technology, Oracle, and the mainframe. Communicate with DOT and DOA to reduce redundancy and to ensure data integrity. The goal is to reduce duplication of data throughout the department by sharing information but maintaining security.
Business Goals	FY98-99 IT Projects
The department case-tracking process.	Develop a client/server-based case tracking system for legal actions using contracted resources. This will automate procedures, ensure information is routed correctly, and reduce paper in a continuing effort toward the "paperless" department.
Fulfills the Governor's goal of streamlining state government for employers.	UI/DOR project. (For a description of this project, see the Department of Revenue's Information Technology plan on page 117).

FY98-99 IT Project Profiles

See the table beginning on page 137 for project profiles detailing platform type, implementation schedule, emerging technologies used, new project resources and associated costs, statutory changes, and public access. Those agencies and universities that provided these details are listed alphabetically, with each followed by its project profiles.

FY00-01 Initiatives

- ▲ Investigate the possible use of imaging and workflow technology to supplement traditional automated systems and streamline processes.
- ▲ Upgrade client/server hardware to accommodate the application growth.
- ▲ Continue with division software and hardware upgrade programs to maintain efficiency in the technology arena.

Accomplishments

- ▲ Installed the first regional Unemployment Insurance Telephone Claims Center. Unemployed workers in the Billings area can now start their unemployment claims by telephone. Implementation involved a new client/server document management system and enhancements to the mainframe accounting system for unemployment insurance benefits.
- ▲ Installed a department computer-training lab.
- ▲ Implemented Phase II of an electronic reporting system for employers. Employers can now file electronic quarterly reports for Unemployment Insurance Contributions as well as their employee wage records. Reports can be received on magnetic tape or diskette, or can be transmitted by telephone.
- ▲ Implemented optional Income Tax Withholding for Unemployment Insurance Claimants. Unemployment insurance benefits are taxable income, and claimants may now choose to have taxes withheld.
- ▲ The Job Service Division completed 28 kiosk installations.
- ▲ The Job Service Division has established on-line Internet access to the America Job Bank to provide nationwide recruitment as well as State of Montana employment and Job Service Office listings, MT Labor Market Information, and a self-directed Job Search.
- ▲ Phase I of ARPS has been completed and is in testing. With the state standard moving to support only Oracle Tools, this phase of the application will need to be converted. The continuation of the ARPS application will be developed using Oracle Tools.
- ▲ Out-stationed employees have the ability to connect to the LAN using the remote server that has been operational for the past 18 months.

**Labor and
Industry**